REMARKS

Interview Summary

Applicants' Attorney acknowledges the courtesy of Examiner Desai in granting an interview on March 9, 2006 to discuss the issues in this application. Modification of the restriction requirement was discussed so as to enable substituents other than t-butyl and trifluoromethylene on the phenyl moiety B. Applicants agreed to narrow the scope of the moiety L^1 to pyridinyl to enable this modification.

Applicants also agreed to delete the generic cycloalkyl groups within the definitions for R_a, R_b and R^7 and include the biological data within US Application Number 09/257,266, filed February 25, 1999, which is incorporated by reference on page 13, lines 25-26.

Examiner Desai also proposed amending claims 62, 64 and 65 to define methods for inhibiting raf kinase instead of methods for treating cancerous cell growth to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112.

Specification Amendments

The insertion on page 88, line 5, of the specification is taken from the Biological Examples (pages 64-65) of US Application Number 09/257,266, filed February 25, 1999, which is incorporated by reference on page 13, lines 25-26 of this application. No new matter is introduced by this insertion.

Claim Amendments

Claims 51, 61, 67 and 73-89 have been canceled in response to a rejection under the doctrine of obviousness type double patenting of claims in copending application Number 10/042,203.

To effect a modification of the restriction requirement, Claims 11-17 have been cancelled and Claims 1, 6-8, 10, 18-27, 38, 39 44, 45, 69 and 71 have been amended.

Claims 62, 64 and 65 have been amended to conform to the language suggested by Examiner Desai at the interview to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, first paragraph.

The following moieties for R_a and R_b (see claim 1) are found in compounds 40, 39, 70, 62, 64, 63 and 79, respectively: -phenylpiperazine(pyridinyl), -phenylmorpholinyl, -ethylmorpholinyl,-ethylpiperidyl,-methyl pyrrolidinyl,-methyl tetrahydrofuryl, and

-C_2H_4NH(phenyl).

The Elected Group

Applicants submit all pending claims conform to the subject matter defined in Group IV of the restriction requirement of October 31, 2002, with the modifications discussed during the interview summarized above. All claims now define compounds where B is phenyl, M is oxygen or sulfur, L is phenyl and L^1 is pyridinyl.

Rejection under 35 USC 112

Claims 62, 64 and 65 have been amended to define methods for inhibiting the enzyme raf kinase within a human or animal using the compounds of this invention. Support for this amendment is found on page 2, lines 10-20 and other portions of the specification. Applicants submit these claims clearly satisfy the requirements of 35 USC 112, first paragraph.

Obviousness type double patenting

In that all claims have been amended in this application, the obviousness type double patenting rejections based on the copending applications identified in earlier office actions are moot.

In view of the above, favorable consideration is courteously requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

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